

HOUSE BILL No. 1144

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 35-45-19.

Synopsis: Failure to report a dead body. A person who discovers or has custody of the body of a deceased person and who knowingly or intentionally fails to report the dead body to a public safety officer, coroner, or physician when it appears the deceased person died by violence, suicide, accident, or under certain other suspicious or unusual circumstances, commits failure to report a dead body, a Class A misdemeanor.

Effective: July 1, 2008.

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January 8, 2008, read first time and referred to Committee on Family, Children and Human Affairs.

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Introduced

Second Regular Session 115th General Assembly (2008)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2007 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

HOUSE BILL No. 1144

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning criminal law and procedure.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

- 1 SECTION 1. IC 35-45-19 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
2 AS A **NEW** CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
3 JULY 1, 2008]:
4 **Chapter 19. Failure to Report a Dead Body**
5 **Sec. 1. This chapter does not apply to the driver of a vehicle**
6 **involved in an accident that:**
7 (1) **results in the death of a person; and**
8 (2) **must be reported under IC 9-26-1-1.**
9 **Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "public safety officer" means:**
10 (1) **a law enforcement officer;**
11 (2) **a correctional officer;**
12 (3) **a state university police officer;**
13 (4) **a firefighter;**
14 (5) **an emergency medical technician; or**
15 (6) **a paramedic.**
16 **Sec. 3. A person who:**
17 (1) **discovers or has custody of the body of a deceased person**



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when it appears the deceased person died:

(A) by violence, suicide, or accident;

(B) by sudden death while in apparent good health;

(C) while unattended;

(D) from poisoning or an overdose of drugs;

(E) as the result of a disease that may constitute a threat to public health;

(F) as the result of:

(i) a disease;

(ii) an injury;

(iii) a toxic effect; or

(iv) unusual exertion;

incurred within the scope of the deceased person's employment;

(G) due to sudden infant death syndrome;

(H) as the result of a diagnostic or therapeutic procedure; or

(I) under any other suspicious or unusual circumstances; and

(2) knowingly or intentionally fails to report the body of the deceased person to a:

(A) public safety officer;

(B) coroner; or

(C) physician;

commits failure to report a dead body, a Class A misdemeanor.

SECTION 2. [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008] IC 35-45-19-3, as added by this act, applies only to offenses committed after June 30, 2008.

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